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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable SHELDON WHITEHOUSE, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island.

PRAYER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's opening prayer will be offered by the Reverend D. Edward Chaney, senior pastor of Second Baptist Church in Las Vegas, NV.

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Bless us now, O God. Touch our hearts, for without Your love, light, and life, we are nothing.

Give our lawmakers strength and courage as they make decisions today that impact the lives of all Americans.

Lord, remove the divisive spirit that prohibits true transformation and allow Your presence to become not just common but harmonious. Through our dedication, commitment, and sacrifice, we thank You for cleansing us from the ills of this world and making us fit to serve and honor You.

We ask these blessings in Your Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable SHELDON WHITEHOUSE led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. INOUE).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, October 6, 2011.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable SHELDON WHITEHOUSE, a Senator from the State of Rhode Island, to perform the duties of the Chair.

DANIEL K. INOUE,
President pro tempore.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

WELCOMING REVEREND CHANEY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I have the rare opportunity today to introduce and say a few words about the guest Chaplain. Reverend Chaney has just delivered, as usual, an eloquent invocation.

Reverend Chaney is originally from South Carolina, but for the last 2 years he has led the flock of the Second Baptist Church in Las Vegas, one of the oldest, extremely well-established, and largest churches in Las Vegas, NV. He is a man who is involved in the community very deeply. He serves on the board of the Urban League and the NAACP.

In addition to his service in the spiritual realm, he has also served as a patriot in our Nation's armed services. He served in the Navy for 4 years, as has our Chaplain, Dr. Barry Black. They were both naval officers. Reverend Chaney recently retired as chaplain of the U.S. Air Force Reserve at Nellis Air Force Base.

I have met with Reverend Chaney under very unique circumstances on a number of occasions. He is a wonderful human being. He is one of those rare

people who have such a pleasant demeanor. The minute a person meets him, they know he is a man of great substance and spiritual quality. So I am very happy to welcome Reverend Chaney and his wife Avis to Washington.

I thank the pastor for the inspiring invocation, which I hope will guide the Senate's action today.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following leader remarks, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 1619, the China currency legislation. The deadline for second-degree amendments to that legislation is at 10 a.m. this morning. At 10:30, there will be a rollover vote on the motion to invoke cloture on S. 1619.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 1660

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I am told that S. 1660 is at the desk and due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator is correct. The clerk will read the bill by title for the second time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1660) to provide tax relief for American workers and businesses, to put workers back on the job while rebuilding and modernizing America, and to provide pathways back to work for Americans looking for jobs.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I object to any further proceedings with respect to this legislation.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

Mr. REID. I note the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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